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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/598,020 | DAVIES, CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | WEI ZHAO | 2475 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/25/2010.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 20-34 and 37-56 (now renumbered 1-35, respectively).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
|---|--|

/Wei Zhao /
Examiner, Art Unit 2475

/DANG T TON/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2475

DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edward Fan, Reg. No. 56,493 on March 1, 2010.

Claim 20 is amended as follows:

In claim 20 lines 5-6, the term "each of said other nodes" has been changed to --- each other node ---;

Claim 37 is amended as follows:

In claim 37, the beginning term "A computer readable medium for storing a set of programming instructions" has been changed to A computer readable medium, non-transitory storage medium, for storing a set of programming instructions ---.

Claims 64-66, 72-75, 77-81, 84, and 86-89 are canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 20-34 and 37-56 are allowed.

Regarding claims 20-34, the prior art, in single or in combination, fails to teach “a self-organizing network comprising: (a) a plurality of nodes; (b) at least one link interconnecting neighbouring ones of said nodes; (c) each of said nodes being operable to maintain information about each other node that is within a first portion of said nodes, said information including: (i) a first identity of another one of said nodes within said first portion; (ii) for each first identity, a second identity representing a neighbouring node that is a desired step to reach the said another one of said nodes respective to said first identity; (d) each of said nodes being operable to maintain a third identity representing a neighbouring node that is a desired step to send a request for information about said nodes in a second portion of said nodes that is not included in said first portion, wherein said third identity is determined based on which of said neighbouring nodes most frequently appears in each said second identity” in combination with other limitation of the claim(s).

Regarding claims 37-56, the prior art, in single or in combination, fails to teach “a computer readable medium, non-transitory storage medium, for storing a set of programming instructions for execution by, or on behalf of, a node forming part of a self-organizing network having a plurality of other nodes and at least one link interconnecting neighbouring ones of said nodes; said programming instructions for causing a computing apparatus within said node to maintain information about each of said other nodes that are within a first portion of all of said other nodes, said information including: (a) a first identity of another one of said nodes within said first portion; (i) for each said first identity, a second identity representing a neighbouring node that is a

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desired step to reach the said another one of said nodes respective to said first identity; said programming instructions for further causing said computing apparatus to maintain a third identity representing a neighbouring node that is a desired step to send a request for information about said nodes in a second portion of said nodes that are not included in said first portion; and wherein said third identity is determined based on which of said neighbouring nodes most frequently appears in each said second identity” in combination with other limitation of the claim(s).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WEI ZHAO whose telephone number is (571)270-5672. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dang Ton can be reached on 571-272-3171. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Wei Zhao
Examiner
Art Unit 2475

/W. Z./
Examiner, Art Unit 2475

/DANG T TON/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2475/D. T. T./
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2475